


MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
SUBJECT : Ideological Warfare

1. The Director of the Psychological Strategy Board forwarded to you for comment on 18 March a proposal on Ideological Warfare by 25X1A

 This proposal has been considered by my staff, but we have withheld ^{our comment to you pending} full discussion by an informal Psychological Strategy Board panel. The panel has not yet completed its analysis, so we, therefore, are submitting the following views on a provisional basis.

2. It is my opinion that the proposal to procure, produce, and distribute existing works of a scholarly and permanent nature in English and translate them into appropriate languages is a laudible venture, but it ^{also} is ^{thus} believed that ^{it} will not prove the most effective ^{means} to offset the influence of such books as "The History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union--Short Course." There is no indication that indigenous personnel who may be selected to support our book program will pick up the banner of free world philosophies incorporated in these books which would be available to them at low cost and vigorously support these philosophies, win and influence new converts to the best of their ability, such as has been accomplished by the publishers and distributors of Communist publications. Another difficulty which will confront us will be the marketing conditions which vary considerably in different areas of the world. The complexity of establishing

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approached with considerable realism. The suggestion that preliminary surveys be made in designated foreign countries regarding book needs, practices, and opportunities for book production facilities and also official and unofficial groups here (such as TCA, MSA, USIS, and CARE) concerned with the distribution of books abroad is a preliminary requirement for an effective ideological program. However, it is the opinion of this office that such a survey is not appropriate or within the jurisdiction of this agency to support.

3. Ideological warfare is a field in which the U. S. has accomplished comparatively little, and it may be that we are not at variance to any great extent with Communist ideologies, but in conflict with the subversive forces and organizations ^{of the Soviet regime in the USSR} which utilize this ideology to screen their own personal interests and aggrandizement on a world-wide basis. The availability of carefully selected books to the free world will not lessen in my opinion the threat to American security. However, ideological warfare may be considered as a promising type of weapon for attack on these forces and ^{if} it is possible to create suitable literary works where none exist to reduce Soviet competition in the ideological field, such a procedure will prove more effective and beneficial to the U. S. In this light, the ^{25X1A} [redacted] paper should be considered as one of many proposals on ideological warfare, most of which have considerable value. If such papers were acted upon collectively, the final result might become an effective weapon in our cold war arsenal.

25X1A
[redacted]

Chief

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